Performance of ONGC

1975. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) despite its flagship status could not compete with the private sector entities in exploration and finding out of new oil and gas fields in the country during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ONGC has spend huge sums in unfruitful expenditure and penalties stemming from poor planning etc., during the Tenth Plan period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to ensure that wasteful expenditure of ONGC is curbed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) The performance of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) during Tenth Plan (2002-07) in exploration and finding out new oil gas fields has been satisfactory. ONGC during Tenth Plan (2002-07) has made 35 hydrocarbon finds in its onland and offshore operational areas and accreted 676.76 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) Oil and Oil Equivalent of Gas (O + OEG) in-place with ultimate component of 240.88 MMT (O + OEG) against the 10th Plan target of 570.43 MMT in-place and 155.51 MMT (O + OEG) in ultimate category, respectively. The ultra deepwater discovery in KG Offshore made during 2006-07 by ONGC, is the first ultra deepwater discovery in the country. ONGC has also, for the first time discovered hydrocarbon in the eastern offshore in Mahanadi Basin.

During Tenth Plan period, exploratory inputs expended by ONGC in its onland and offshore operational areas include acquisition of 59683.26 Ground Line Kilometre/Line Kilometre (GLK/LK) of 2 D seismic data against the target of 35286 GLK/LK and 92988 sq. km. of 3D seismic data against the target of 34834 sq. km. and drilled 576 exploratory wells against a target of 561 exploratory wells. However, ONGC as a operator could not complete Minimum Work Programme (MWP) as per Production Sharing Contract (PSC) and paid US Dollar 50.3 Million towards unfinished work programme and for obtaining extension.

Malpractices by LPG distributors in Rajasthan

1976. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of diversion of domestic gas cylinders for commercial use and supply of underweight domestic gas cylinders detected in Rajasthan, during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the names of gas agencies including in such malpractices; and

(c) the action taken against each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have detected 79 cases of diversion and 3 cases of underweight cylinders in Rajasthan during the years 2005-06; 2006-07 and April, 2007-February, 2008. The details are given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(b) The names and details of the LPG distributorships indulging in diversion and underweight LPG cylinders are available with the Directors (Marketing) of concerned OMCs.

(c) Action against the erring distributorships was taken as per provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG)/Distributorship Agreements by the OMCs.

Statement

Details of number of cases of diversion and under-weight LPG cylinders reported by Public Sector Oil Marketing companies (OMCs) in the State of Rajasthan

Year	No. of cases of Division	No. of cases of under-weight cylinders
2005-06	29	3
2006-07	21	-
2007-08	29	-
April 2007 to February, 2008		
TOTAL	79	3

Purchase of Sugarcane projects in Brazil

1977. DR. MURALI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Public Sector Oil Companies have decided to purchase the sugarcane production projects in Brazil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of such oil companies; and

(d) the reasons behind this compulsion of these companies to purchase projects of foreign sugarcane for ethanol?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) A team of BPCL visited Brazil in September 2006 to explore the possibilities of acquiring sugarcane acreage and putting up ethanol manufacturing units in Brazil. The team's report was discussed during the meeting of Monitoring Committee of Ethanol on 15.11.2006 chaired by Secretary, P &NG, when it was decided that following action be taken by the Industry with BPCL as the coordinator:

i. Feasibility study for Ethanol operations in/from Brazil: the experience of private companies including Reliance Industries may be shared.